

January Board Meeting – Bancroft Public Library

Director's Report

News/Updates & Issues

- **New Kids' Chairs Purchased:** we purchased four new wipeable bean bag chairs for the kids' area. This money will be pulled from the Donations account.
- **Shared Office Space -**
 - **Rolltop Desk** – was sold in December.
 - **New Shelving:** Mark, Karen, and Melissa would like to put shelving along the wall to hold the purple bags. Mark is working on a plan.
- **Applied for WMHT Early Literacy Kits** – Melissa applied for the early literacy kits from WMHT. We did not receive them this time, but we were asked to apply again in February.
- Melissa applied for Bancroft Library to be a part of "We Are Instrumental" --this is a new collaboration within SALS. We can take donations of music instruments (not pianos nor drums), and send them through delivery to SALS where Cole's Woodwind Music Shop will rehab/repair the item. The item then gets sent to teachers in the school systems that might need a particular instrument (see more below) - January Update – We are still waiting to hear back on this, but should be rolling by February.
- **Applying for Stewart's Grant** – Melissa applied in December. We hope to hear back in February/March.
- **Vacuum** – Has been working well! Whew.
- **Challenges with Book Orders** – We are still struggling to purchase books from Ingram. Karen has started using Amazon for book purchases, which has been working fine.
- **Book Donation Bin Being Used** – The book bin has been filled approximately 22 times and emptied. We are currently on our 23rd bin, which is fantastic.

Follow Up from Previous Meetings

- **Carpet Cleaning** – Melissa will schedule carpet cleaning for end of March, early April.
- **Mold in Basement** – we still need to follow up on this from the last meeting. Melissa did buy one option for cleaning the wall.
- **Banner** – Melissa started work on this in October, but hasn't had time to move forward with creating a design for banner for tabling events.

Circulation Statistics

- See website for the December Circulation report.

Program Stats

- **Grinch Reading** – 19 participants
- DEMCO Board – 14 participants
- **Coloring Station** – 12-17 participants
- **Weekly/Monthly programs** – Book Groups, Scrabble, Tech Help, Book Club, Herbal Study Group, Homesteading Group, Mahjong, and Chess all have a consistent number of people who attend.

Upcoming Programs and Ideas

Upcoming Programs	Date	Details
It's Revolutionary! Kids' Program	Saturday, January 24, 2026	Debi Craig and Dorothea Craig Casey presenting on stories, games, and songs from the Revolutionary War era.
Saving Family Mementoes – Part One, Organizing Print Photos	Tuesday, January 27, 2026	Carolynn Presser comes to present on saving family memorabilia. This part one of a three part series, come to one, two or all three classes.
Passive Program – Color with Us!	Winter	Coloring Station for adults and kids alike
StoryWalk	Winter	Story Walk along the Proudfoot Hall Windows
Passive Program – Demco Sticker Board	Winter	Community sticker board that creates a picture when it is completed.
Upcoming in February		Saving Family Memorabilia Part Two Dazzle Camouflage – USS Slater Kids Program Chinese Lunar New Year – WACM VITA Tax Prep Healthy Living For Your Brain and Body

Outreach in the Local Community (and Beyond!)

- We Are Instrumental Program (in collaboration with SALS and area schools and students).
 - **So how does this magic happen?**
 - When your library becomes a partner, it becomes a donation drop-off site. Community members can bring instruments to the library and fill out a simple form. You then send the instrument through delivery to SALS. Cole's Woodwind Shop in Saratoga evaluates and repairs it. Once it is ready, WAI picks it up and delivers it to a school in need.
 - Occasionally, an instrument may arrive at your library labeled for a specific music teacher. In that case, you simply hold onto it until the teacher picks it up and places that instrument directly into the hands of an eager student.
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Financials and Donations

- **Glens Falls Account for Donations:** \$2,785.61 (increase of \$970.61 from December).
 - Thank you to Josh Levy and Pam Magnuson; Sheafe Satterthwaite; and Elizabeth Compton
- We will use money from the Donation Account to pay for the new kids' chairs. Melissa wrote a check for Kathy to deposit.

Staff & Volunteers

Stanley McGaughey has joined as a volunteer on Tuesdays and potentially Thursdays.

Facility Update

- **Mold in basement** – There is mold growing along the drywall of the climate control room in the basement.

Technology

- SALS will send us a new power strip for the routers in the basement. The old one is ten years old and needs to be updated.

Submitted by: Melissa Carll, Library Director, January 2026